

Klingle Road Redux

By Ron Shaffer

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Dear Dr. Gridlock:

Things have gotten out of hand, and folks need to get a few things straight.

First, Klingle Road is not a park or a valley, or a green space, or "an area set aside for recreation or wild, undeveloped beauty."

Hello, it's a road that flooded out during a freak storm over a decade ago and became overgrown when the District government and Park Service couldn't figure out who should fix it.

I'm sure that the Klingletons have loved living in their private little park all the time. Who wouldn't? But the transportation needs of so many other D.C. residents, and the livability and property values of everyone else who lives in the area should not be compromised to benefit a few (spoiled) folks who can't admit that they had a nice run but it's over now.

And would someone please make the Klingletons stop trying to pass their argument off as some impassioned environmental study based on behalf of Mother Nature?

This argument sounds suspiciously similar to that of bicyclists who advocate closing Rock Creek Park to all motor vehicle traffic because of the impact that motor vehicles have on trees and birdies. (Yeah, right.)

An effective transportation system is based on a balance between all modes of transportation. That means that motor vehicles, bicyclists, in-line skaters, pedestrians and others have to coexist.

Bottom line: The Klingletons need to get over themselves and cut this "Save Klingle Valley" (it's a road, people) nonsense out.

Klingle Road needs to be repaved and reopened.

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